

a second optical system that receives at least two optical pulses and spatially and temporally overlaps them on or in the structure to form an excitation pattern that launches an acoustic wave, an electronic response, or a thermal response that modulates at least a portion of the structure;

a light source that produces a probe beam that reflects [or diffracts] off the portion to generate a signal beam;

an optical detection system that receives the signal beam and in response generates a light-induced electrical signal;

a data-acquisition system that receives the light-induced electrical signal and the trigger pulse and, in response, generates a data signal; and

an analyzer that analyzes the data signal to measure the property of the structure.

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated April 13, 2010. Claims 1-46 remain pending in this Application. Claim 35 has been amended to more clearly define a feature already recited in that claim. Claims 1, 35, 45 and 46 are independent. The title has also been amended and required in the Office Action. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, Claims 1-13, 15-19, 21-34 and 45 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 1-8 and